

MARS Council Meeting Notes – 2/7/08

Attendees:

NMFS (Maureen Pulver, Tonya Coleman, Mark Blades)

NWS (Mary Rieck, Carla Kirby)

OAR (Dinara Holmes, Paul Johnson, Cindy Loitsch, Eugene Burger, Sylvia Scott)

NESDIS (Jim Lewis)

NOS (Carmen Solis, Renee Galloway)

Program Support (Peter Boyle)

NMAO (Gerald Thomas)

MARS Developers/Support – Marina Rubina, Sonny Tallapragada, Lonnie Kemp, Bella Bechutsky, Penny Schmeideberg)

Presentation of MARS Funds Control Modules – Tonya Coleman.

- Explanation of AA/AA Reserve generation;
- Review of LO rules for AA generation;
- Demonstration of how to sub-allot CBS funding between mail codes/projects.

Proposed changes:

- Mary Rieck proposed to clean AA form: remove obsolete options from some of the pull-down menu items (ex. Report Category options). Add to CCR list.
- Dinara Holmes (OAR) is reviewing OAR's need to utilize both AA and AAReserve modules. When finalized, she will submit recommendations to MARS development team for implementation.

Presentation of MARS BOP Upload module (create file and upload to CBS) – Tonya Coleman.

- Budget records need to be marked as Initial budget and saved against valid AA# to be included in the file;
- File can be created for the whole LO or by FMC.
- In order to create the file all allotments marked as Target need to be budgeted (initial budget) – for the selected FMC or LO.
- BOP upload procedures were attached to 1/24/08 agenda e-mail.

Proposed changes:

- Mary Rieck and Carmen Solis explained the need for more selective upload (ex. based on the program code). Add to CCR list.

Presentation of NOAA Variance Report – Penny Schmiedeberg.

Proposed changes:

- Add Running Totals and Variance Column (\$ or %) on the FMC Response Selection page (Mark Blades);
- Will use heading names associated with BOBJ tables;
- On the LO Response page, concatenate FMC responses program to create default LO Response to be later edited by LO designate (Mark Blades);
- Security access: No Restrictions on the FMC Response Level. LO Level (final) needs to be restricted. NOAA Budget needs to see only LO final response by PPA and LO Summary Chart.
- Timelines: Set up the calendar to lock up FMC response 3 days before LO responses are due. Include ability to handle LO extensions.
- Penny Schmiedeberg will do presentation for Business Rules Committee on February 12th to get additional feedback.

Questions/Proposals:

- Peter Boyle suggested a future discussion to address the Encumbrance column use on BOBJ and/or MARS Data Entry reports for displaying status of funds to management. He also suggested a need for a comment field to further define balances listed on the status of funds reports.